

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the following comments and as presently amended is respectfully requested.

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Claims 9-28 are presently pending in the application. Claims 1-8 have been canceled and Claims 9-28 have been added by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Receipt was acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d); Claim 8 was objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c) as in improper dependent form; Claims 1- 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicant regards as the invention; Claims 1, 2, and 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Gottschald (U.S. Patent No. 5,908,348); and Claims 3, 4, and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Gottschald.

Claim 8 was objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c) and Claims 1- 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-8 have been canceled. New Claims 9-28 have been added to clarify the invention. New Claims 9, 10, 13, 14, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, and 27 are non-means plus function versions of Claims 11, 12, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, and 28, respectively. Support for the new claims is provided at least at page 3, line 6, to page 6, line 13, and shown at least in Figure 2 of the specification. Thus, the new claims raise no question of new matter and are definite.

Claims 1, 2, and 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Gottschald. This rejection is rendered moot due to the cancellation of Claims 1-8 as above discussed.

Claims 3, 4, and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Gottschald. This rejection is rendered moot due to the cancellation of Claims 1-8 as above discussed.

Applicant has noted problems in the area of lens shape data processing in determining the machining conditions for grinding spectacle lenses. In particular, the lens grinding efficiency of background art lens shape data processing apparatuses is low since completion of a current lens grinding process is necessary before conducting the layout setting process for a new lens grinding process.¹

The claimed invention improves the efficiency of lens grinding work. In particular, the claim invention provides, as new Claim 9 recites:

[a] lens shape data processing apparatus comprising:
a lens shape data measuring unit configured to measure
a plurality of lens shape data of a spectacle frame; and
*a memory configured to store data measured by said
lens shape data measuring unit*" (emphasis added).

That is, claimed invention improves on the background art lens grinding apparatus at least by providing an apparatus with memory storage capable of processing data for the layout setting process for grinding a new spectacle during measurement or grinding work of a current lens.²

Turning to the applied art, Gottschald discloses a method for CNC-controlled shape grinding of spectacles.³ In particular, Gottschald discloses inputting shape data of spectacle frames, measuring front and back curvature shapes of spectacle lenses, and machining the

¹Specification at page 2, lines 17-23.

²*Id.* at page 2, line 27, to page 3, line 3,

³Gottschald at Abstract.

lenses to match with the shape data of the spectacle frames.⁴ Moreover, Gottschald discloses a keyboard 2 and a computer 7.⁵

However, Gottschald nowhere discloses or suggests:

a memory configured to store data measured by said lens shape data measuring unit” (emphasis added).

That is, Gottschald nowhere discloses “memory” that stores “a plurality of lens shaped data of a spectacle frame,” as recited in new Claim 9 and in similar terms in Claim 11.

Further, Gottschald nowhere discloses or suggests “measuring a plurality of lens shape data of a spectacle frame,” as recited in new Claim 9 and in similar terms in Claim 11.

Furthermore, though Gottschald discloses a keyboard 2, Gottschald nowhere discloses or suggests that keyboard 2 includes, as new Claims 13, 25, and 27 recite:

. . . said plurality of keys includes a first function key configured to switch at least one of said plurality of screens to select and access one of said plurality of lens shape information and a second function key configured to access a preceding lens shape information and at least one of a next lens shape information and a new lens shape information.

In addition, Claims 15, 26, and 28 recite similar terms to Claims 13, 25, and 27, respectively.

Moreover, though Gottschald discloses a computer 7, Gottschald nowhere discloses or suggests that computer 7 includes, as new Claims 17 and 19 recite:

an arithmetic processing unit configured to set and adjust machining conditions for the unprocessed spectacle lens based on following lens shape data used for the ongoing operation during at least one of an operation of said edge surface measuring unit and an operation of a machining unit.

⁴*Id.* at column 2, lines 30-55.

⁵*Id.* at Figure 1, column 7, lines 20-30.

In addition, Claims 18 and 20 recite similar terms to Claims 17 and 19, respectively.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted Gotschald does not disclose, suggest, anticipate, or make obvious the invention of Claims 9, 11, 13, 15, 17-20, and 25-28, and that Claims 9, 11, 13, 15, 17-20, and 25-28, and claims dependent thereon, patentably distinguish thereover.

Accordingly, in view of the present response, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-8 (Canceled).

Claims 9-28 (Newly Added).